



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,832	08/21/2002	Alan R Starkey	BRI-00041	3953

7590

08/14/2003

Warn Burgess & Hoffmann  
P O Box 70098  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

EXAMINER

ALAVI, ALI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/069,832

Applicant(s)

STARKEY ET AL.

Examiner

Ali Alavi

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's pre-amendment filed on 8/21/02 has been entered. Accordingly, claim 4 has been amended. Claims 1-7 are pending in this application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eidelman (U. S. Pat. No. 5,255,164).

Regarding claims 1-4, and 7, Eidelman discloses a side illumination arrangement for a motor vehicle arranged to illuminate the lower part of a the side of the vehicle and the adjacent ground, in which the lights are mounted below the level of the bottom of the vehicle windows (2, figure 1) without requiring any extensive modification to the body, wherein the vehicle has a horizontally extending rubbing strip mounted on a vehicle door below the level of a window in said door and a downwardly directed light is mounted within said rubbing strip, having a plurality of lights (col. 4, lines 6-8) spaced apart from one another along said rubbing strip, having a respective rubbing strip on each side of the vehicle and a downwardly directed light mounted within each rubbing strip (figure 1).

Art Unit: 2875

Claims 1, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Illiano (U. S. Pat. No. 2,325,403).

Regarding claims 1, 5 and 6, Illiano discloses windows a side illumination arrangement for a motor vehicle arranged to illuminate the lower part of a the side of the vehicle and the adjacent ground, in which the lights are mounted below the level of the bottom of the vehicle windows (13, 14 figure 1) without requiring any extensive modification to the body, a downwardly directed light mounted inside a wheel arch of a motor vehicle (figures 2-3), wherein a respective downwardly directed light is mounted inside each wheel arch of said motor vehicle (see figure 1).

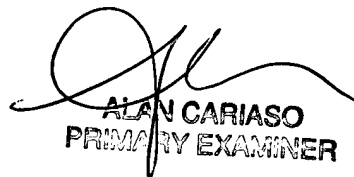
### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Clark (U S Pat. No. 2,086,524) discloses a vehicular illumination means having downwardly directed light on the side of a vehicle.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Ali Alavi whose telephone number is (703) 305-0522. The examiner can normally be reached between 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday to Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandy O'Shea can be reached at (703) 305-4939 or you may fax your inquiry to the receptionist at (703) 308-7382.

Ali Alavi

8/08/03

  
ALAN CARIASO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER